

SENATE NO. 416

AN ACT RELATIVE TO RESERVING BEDS IN NURSING HOMES DURING CERTAIN LEAVES OF ABSENCE

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled,
And by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. Section 14A of chapter 118E of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding
2 the following paragraphs:

3 In the event that a nursing facility resident who is a MassHealth recipient enters a
4 hospital, the division shall pay to preserve his or her bed in the nursing facility for a period of
5 up to 10 days. The division shall reimburse the nursing facility for the medical leave of absence,
6 which shall include an observation stay in a hospital in excess of twenty-four hours, at the
7 recipient's pre-absence rate during the medical leave and upon the resident's return.

8 In the event that a nursing facility resident who is a MassHealth recipient leaves the
9 nursing facility for non-medical reasons, the division shall pay to preserve his or her bed in the
10 facility for a period of up to 15 days. The division shall reimburse the nursing facility for the
11 non-medical leave of absence at the recipient's pre-absence rate during the non-medical leave
12 and upon the resident's return.